



# Are you a cat breeder?

As from 1 November 2013, all domestic cats in Western Australia, over six months of age, will need to be sterilised, microchipped and registered with their local government as the full *Cat Act 2011* comes into effect.

## Who is considered a cat breeder?

Even if you wish to only breed one litter from your cat, you are considered a cat breeder.

## What is the purpose of the *Cat Act 2011*?

Our new cat laws are about:

- encouraging responsible pet ownership;
- reducing the number of unwanted cats in the community; and
- reducing the number of cats euthanised each year.

Microchipping and registration will also ensure cats are returned to their owners if they become lost.

## How does this affect cat breeders?

If you are a current cat breeder or wish to become a breeder you must apply for a cat breeding permit from your local government. These permits are valid for 12 months. A fee is payable.

When a cat is sold or given away, you must ensure the cat is microchipped and sterilised prior to transfer.

If the cat cannot be sterilised due to its young age, you must issue a prepaid sterilisation voucher to the new owner.

## Can my local government refuse my application to become a cat breeder?

Yes – your application may be refused if:

- your local government deems your premises or facilities to be unsuitable to breed cats in a safe and ethical way;
- you have been convicted of an offence against the *Cat Act 2011*, *Dog Act 1976*, or *Animal Welfare Act 2002* in the past three years; or
- you have been issued an infringement notice under the *Cat Act 2011* in the past 12-months.

If you are a member of: the Cat Owners Association WA, Feline Control Council of WA or Australian National Cats, you cannot have your application refused unless you have been convicted against the *Cat Act 2011*, *Dog Act 1976* or the *Animal Welfare Act 2002* in the past three years.

Cat breeders may be subject to conditions placed on them by the local government.

## Where can I get more information?

For more information, including tips for being a responsible cat owner, visit the Department of Local Government and Communities' Responsible Cat Ownership web page at:

<http://dlg.wa.gov.au/Content/Legislation/ResponsibleCatOwnership.aspx>

or contact your local government.



### **What is the purpose of the *Cat Act 2011*?**

Our new cat laws are about encouraging responsible pet ownership and reducing the number of unwanted cats in the community and the number that are euthanised each year.

The full *Cat Act 2011* will take effect from **1 November 2013** and will require all cats that have reached six months of age to be:

- Microchipped;
- Sterilised; and
- Registered with the relevant local government.